

From: Frank Nickerson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/8/01 12:52am
Subject: re: Microsoft

Contrary to popular opinion I believe Microsoft has some wonderful products. I also think they have some great lawyers working for them. I say this because they broke the law and the law doesn't hurt them for doing so.

Breaking the law is worthwhile for Microsoft because the proposed settlement makes their breaking the law worthwhile for them. In my opinion that has been the strategy of Microsoft: breaking the law is a cost of doing business. However, the law is supposed to be the law. Maybe Microsoft shouldn't be broken up but they need to pay for breaking the law. There needs to be an incentive not to break the law similar to the death penalty; three strikes and you are out. If they do the crime they must pay for the crime. It needs to hurt. It needs to punish.

Microsoft is unrepentant for its actions. Unrepentant citizens get more jail time. Unrepentant criminals don't get parole. Microsoft should be treated no differently than a citizen. They should not be an exception to our rule of law. Their corporate license is a privilege given by the government and the people of the US. They need to understand they report to their shareholders AND they report to the American voting citizens via the law. The Justice Department can do better than the current settlement. Please give the American people our justice. Make Microsoft realize that the law is not just another cost of doing business.

Sincerely,

Frank Nickerson